

Week of February 2, 2025 - The Unleavened Bread | Small Group Lesson 13

Connect

Share a time when you had to "clean house" – either literally or figuratively. What prompted it, and what was the result?

Verses - 1 Corinthians 5:1-8 (CSB)

Read aloud:

1 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and the kind of sexual immorality that is not even tolerated among the Gentiles — a man is sleeping with his father's wife. 2 And you are arrogant! Shouldn't you be filled with grief and remove from your congregation the one who did this? 3 Even though I am absent in the body, I am present in spirit. As one who is present with you in this way, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who has been doing such a thing. 4 When you are assembled in the name of our Lord Jesus, and I am with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus, 5 hand that one over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord. 6 Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little leaven leavens the whole batch of dough? 7 Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new unleavened batch, as indeed you are. For Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed. 8 Therefore, let us observe the feast, not with old leaven or with the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. What specific sexual immorality is Paul addressing in verse 1? Why does he emphasize that it's even shocking to the Gentiles?

2. In verses 2 and 6, what is Paul's tone, and what actions does he urge the Corinthians to take? Why is their boasting inappropriate in this situation?

3. How does Paul's statement in v.3 ("absent in body but present in spirit") help you understand his authority and concern for the Corinthian church?

4. What is the purpose of handing the unrepentant sinner over to Satan (v.5)? Is this an act of cruelty or of love? Why?

Share

Discuss this from this week's message:
In the message, Pastor Takeshi mentions examples of people confessing their struggles with sin. Why is this kind of honesty and vulnerability important within the church community? What do you think of his response?

Discuss 2:
The sermon uses the illustration of Passover and the removal of leaven. How does this Old Testament practice connect to the New Testament call for purity in the church? What is the connection between such thought and church discipline? (See also Colossians 3:5-10)

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.